Dear Lou, 9/8/72

It has been years since I got any kind of kick out of saying, "I told you so." I don't now, either, after having just read the States of 8/21 and not being surprised that Jim got only about 25% of the total vote and was a third behind the leader. You may remember I believed it was nutty for him to run for Supreme Court Judge to begin with, that being a position in which he can do nothing about his present situation whereas as DA he has a bit of heft left. Moreover, there had been no possibility of countering the accusation that he is some kind of cheap crook. Running for dogcatcher under these circumstances is a bit zany. If there is any legitimacy in what Jim Brown says you told him, that Jim's future is at stake, count me as one of the ignorant, for I don't see it in this race.

If Moo remembers, he will tell you that I figured Jim would win re-election after the Shaw fiasco without a runoff. I still underestimated his strength then. All of you seemed to think there would be a runoff. I didn't.

And when Jim gets only about 25,000 votes in New Orleans?

And this fights for his future?

Some future!

Which brings me to what I'm really writing about.

Please don't play games with Jim Brown. He is a decent, concerned young man and he is without wealth. So, first of all you threw him when you said you thought you had sent me "everything" knowing damned well that you hadn't even answered my letters. And then when you said you would phone me, he called me, spending money I'm sure he can't afford to waste. I wrote him promptly telling him would hand't and wouldn't. We both know you haven't.

He had written me from Texas asking if there were anything he could do for me. I told him then that if you had what I did not anticipate, time problems, you might have intended copying the transcript for me and couldn't, so maybe he could xerox them.

Because of this he may, when he is next in New Orleans, stop in to see if you would like him to do this xeroxing.

If he doesn, don't spin his wheels for him. He'll believe whatever you say, so tell it to him as it is.

There is no point in my doing this with you. You know.

Sorry it got this way.

If you let him copy these public records, no big deal to begin with, I won't kid you. I'll be reading them only when I have nothing else to do. I'd still like to have them, but I'm not kidding myself that I can help anyone else by finding anything in them, as I am confident I will. So, I've filed what I have written and I don't know if I'll ever write any more on it.

As you have undoubtedly noted, I am no less diplomatic and tactful than before.

Meanwhile, if you or anyone else gives a damn about those men who gave Jim all the money he pissed away, pray that Sal beats Shea in the runoff. If he doesn't, you've (most of you, anyway) got rough days ahead. I don't think anyone in that office will do the work on the civil case Sal would have.

Unless he has already done it.

Even then nobody will need or want any help. That is why it has been seen to that it can't be offered or available.

Unless it can come from Vince, who has suddenly seen, as Jim explained to me, that the CIA is really the good guys. How can they be anything else when they are largely responsible for about 70% of the horse that gets here and for most of what got to the boys in Vietnam, where they got hooked?

But I guess I'm just an ignorant, outdated old fogey who hasn't kept up with what today is good and what is bad.

Not so?